

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

The present Amendment is being filed together with a Request For Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

Claims 1, 2, 7, 15, 18, 21-23, 29-31 and 34-39 are pending in this application, the independent claims being claims 1, 2, 38 and 39. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 38 and 39 are amended. Claims 3-6, 8-14, 16, 17, 19, 20, 24-28, 32 and 33 previously were canceled.

In a Notice of Allowance and Notice of Allowability mailed October 14, 2005, all prior pending claims were indicated as allowed.

Claim Amendments

Independent claims 1, 2, 38 and 39 have been amended herein to provide Applicant with additional scope of coverage commensurate with the disclosure. No new matter has been added.

Other Submission

By separate paper filed concurrently herewith, Applicant has submitted an Information Disclosure Statement identifying additional art that may be deemed pertinent because it was identified in a corresponding Japanese patent application . Consideration of the art respectfully is requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes the present pending claims are allowable over the prior art, and submits that the present application is in allowable form and in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the application at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Christopher Philip Wrist
Registration No. 32,078

JAO:CPW/amw

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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